

## Lecture Module - Time Varying Circuits

Mechanical Engineering  
Tennessee Technological University

### Topic 2 - First Order Systems

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- General System Model
- Mechanical-Electrical Analogies
- Example: RC Circuit
- Activity: Bulb Thermometer

## General System Model

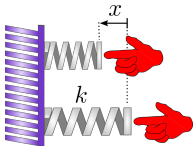
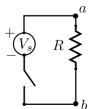
The behavior of a circuit is dependent on time, and many common circuits can be represented by a *linear ordinary differential equation* which can be written in the following standard form.

$$a_n \frac{d^n x}{dt^n} + a_{n-1} \frac{d^{n-1} x}{dt^{n-1}} + \dots + a_2 \frac{d^2 x}{dt^2} + a_1 \frac{dx}{dt} + a_0 x = f(t)$$

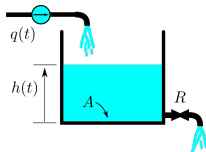
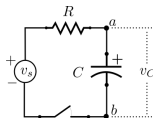
# Mechanical-Electrical Analogies

Many mechanical systems are also time dependent, or *dynamic* and a mechanical-electrical analog is often draw between the two.

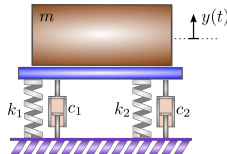
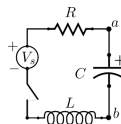
## Zero Order



## First Order



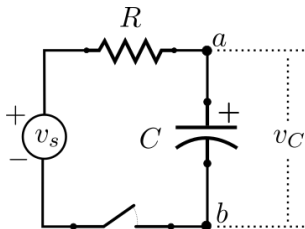
## Second Order



This concept was used for analysis and simulation.

## Example: RC Circuit

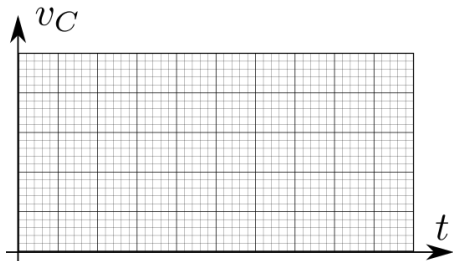
The RC circuit is a first order system. The response to a step input  $v_s$  is exponential which is described a single parameter the time constant  $\tau$ .



First Order Model  
Response Equation

## Example: RC Circuit

<i>time(s)</i>	<i>response(V)</i>



## Activity: Bulb Thermometer

Activity: This should be completed by each student as an individual. You are encouraged to discuss with your peers.

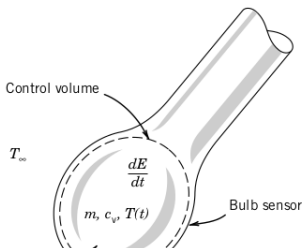
Consider the bulb thermometer shown which can be modeled as a first order system. Write the system model and the expected response.

$$\frac{dE}{dt} = \dot{Q}$$

$$\frac{dE}{dt} = mc_v \frac{T(t)}{dt}$$

$$\dot{Q} = hA_s \Delta T$$

First Order Model:

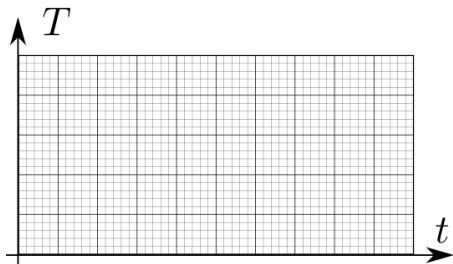


Response Equation:

## Activity: Bulb Thermometer

Activity: Fill out the table below and sketch a graph to represent the data.

<i>time(s)</i>	<i>response(<math>^{\circ}\text{C}</math>)</i>
0	
$1\tau$	
$2\tau$	
$3\tau$	
$4\tau$	





## Activity: Bulb Thermometer

Activity: Answer the following questions.

(hint: Think about the *general system model*.)

What is the time constant of the bulb thermometer system?

$\tau =$

What is the static sensitivity? What are the units?

$K =$